

Eric Turcott

Team Europe

I was a part of team Europe and my group members were Jessica, Tiffany, Obed, Young Joo and Kyung Hwa. I did my section in the group presentation on movements gaining momentum in France right now. The bulk of my research led me to the Evangelical movement in France and how it has been gaining momentum. I would say in different times when I was in a group in undergrad at Temple University I would tend to take charge. Perhaps because I was a little bit older than everyone because I started college when I was 23. I am also used to being a leader in my youth basketball ministry. It was kind of strange to not be the leader but I tried to take leadership opportunities when necessary. I would say I was an effective group member but just slightly above average. I think at least partially because of everything going on I didn't feel into it. I did participate in all of our meetings but I didn't feel like I went the extra mile. The most preparation I put into the presentation was practicing with my material to the point I almost memorized my whole six minutes without having to look at the slides. I definitely should have diversified my sources more and just overall done more digging. I found one great source early on but then I came to realize that source could be biased so I tried to balance it a little bit but most of the significant points came from David Brown of the Forum of Christian Leaders. I also didn't want to just retell the whole presentation of what I heard him say so I did use some key points and stats of his but I tried to include some others sources as well that he didn't mention. I still think my portion was too similar to his presentations but when I used something of his I did cite it.

I think the most significant part of this experience was getting to know my classmates more and my roommate more. I had the Christian Encounter with World Religions class last semester with Obed, Tiffany, and Young Joo. I had the chance to talk with Obed and Tiffany last semester but it was definitely great getting a chance to know them more. I didn't talk with Young Joo at all until recently and hearing some of her story and getting to know her more was nice. I also found out that Jessica lives in my neighborhood and she has been a Young Life leader before and was thinking about getting involved in Brooklyn. As soon as this coronavirus nonsense is over I want to introduce her to the area director for Crown Heights. It was also nice getting a chance to know Kyung Hwa more but I don't feel like I got a chance to talk with her as much during this process. Part of that is due to the language barrier but it was still great to get to know her at least a little. I have talked to my roommate a lot in the past 3 years since I have lived in NYC but not usually about his heart for France. I had no idea that he was a leader in the prayforfrance.org movement. I could tell he lit up when I mentioned to him that I was doing a presentation on France. I also have some French on my dad's side. My last name Turcott is a French Canadian last name. I never had any family on my dad's side because they passed away so to a small extent I was reconnecting with my roots. It turns out that my last name was given to people that fought against the Ottoman Turks and stopped the spread of Islam. I am not an advocate of holy war but it is interesting that I have that last name and I have a passion to see Muslims encounter Jesus.

I think the part that frustrated me the most was working on our time. I volunteered to time us when we were practicing our presentation. Every time seemed to be too long. I feel like even though we were going through these unfortunate extenuating circumstances we could have held each other accountable better with the time. It's difficult because it's hard to choose what to

kick out of your portion of the presentation but I feel like we could have done that better. Overall we worked really well together but that kind of bothered me that I went too long as an individual and we went too long as a group. After we were done I didn't say anything about this because obviously what's done is done and I'm still really happy that I got a chance to work with them.